

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising the steps of:

transmitting at a rate on a downlink shared channel having slots with each slot including a ~~preamble~~ signaling mechanism locally identifying a wireless unit and data;
transmitting on a dedicated control channel associated with a dedicated downlink channel including power control bits and pilot bits; ~~and~~
transmitting on a ~~beacon channel~~ another signaling mechanism a power fraction information, downlink activity information and code space information; and
receiving on an uplink dedicated physical control channel, rate information for transmitting on said downlink shared channel, and an acknowledgement information indicating the receipt of data.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A method comprising the steps of:

receiving at a rate on a downlink shared channel having slots with each slot including a ~~preamble~~ signaling mechanism locally identifying a wireless data unit and data;
receiving on a dedicated control channel associated with ~~the~~ a dedicated downlink channel including power control bits and pilot bits; ~~and~~
receiving on a ~~beacon channel~~ another signaling mechanism a power fraction information, downlink activity information and code space information; and
transmitting at a rate on an uplink dedicated physical control channel, rate information calculated using said power fraction information, said downlink activity information and said code space and acknowledgment information indicating the receipt of data.

4. (Canceled)